


Amendments to the Abstract:

1) Please amend the Abstract appearing at page 18 as follows:

 A ~~trench-digging~~ trench-digging machine is provided that includes a digging implement capable of being laterally offset beyond the bounds of the transport machine, thereby enabling the ~~trench-digging~~ trench-digging machine to dig trenches that are laterally offset from the transport machine. The ~~trench-digging~~ trench-digging machine also generally includes an attachment plate and frame to operably connect the digging implement to the transport machine. The attachment plate may be disposed at an angle offset from vertical such that the attachment plate faces downwardly. As such, the frame and, in turn, the digging implement may be operably connected to the transport machine at a position closer to the ground, thereby reducing the clearance required for access by the digging implement.